

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Ecoregions**

**Tennessee State Parks  
Ecoregional Planning  
May, 2001**

**Ecoregional Planning**

Ecoregional frameworks are valuable tools for natural resource inventory and assessment, for setting resource management goals, and for developing biological criteria and water quality standards. Rather than manage the natural resources of each site as a separate unit, current research in natural resources management utilizes the concept of an ecosystem-based approach or “ecoregional planning”.

The ecosystem approach is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. It is based on the application of appropriate resource management techniques based on the levels of biological organization within an ecosystem (processes, functions, interactions among organisms and humans).

The ecoregional planning approach to be used within the Tennessee State Park system is based on EPA, USDA Forest Service and Nature Conservancy research and applications already developed and implemented within TDEC. This approach encourages the biological integrity of the State Park system because each park within a given region is managed using similarly defined resource-related goals and objectives.

**Methodology**

Teams will be formed in the eight ecoregions with representatives from each of the parks in that ecoregion. These teams will formulate regional-level goals and objectives for natural resources management within the parks of that region. These goals, objectives and management strategies will then be incorporated into the individual park management plans and used as a basis for natural resources management at the individual park level.

## **Ecoregions**

The following table identifies each of the Level III ecoregions and the parks that are classified within each ecoregion. Resources management goals and objectives will be based on the natural similarities of each region.

<b>Ecoregion</b>	<b>Related Parks</b>	<b>Location in State</b>
Mississippi Alluvial Plain	Fort Pillow, Meeman-Shelby Forest, Reelfoot Lake, TO Fuller	West TN
Mississippi Valley Loess Plains	Big Cypress Tree, Meeman-Shelby Forest	West TN
Southeastern Plains	Big Hill Pond, Chickasaw, Natchez Trace, Pickwick Landing, Pinson Mounds	West TN
Interior Plateau	Bicentennial Mall, Bledsoe Creek, Burgess Falls, Cedars of Lebanon, David Crockett, Dunbar Cave, Edgar Evins, Henry Horton, Johnsonville, Long Hunter, Montgomery Bell, Mousetail Landing, Nathan Bedford Forest, Narrows of the Harpeth, Old Stone Fort, Paris Landing, Port Royal, Radnor Lake, Standing Stone, Tims Ford	Middle TN
Southwestern Appalachians	Cordell Hull Birthplace, Cumberland Mt, Cumberland Trail, Fall Creek Falls, Pickett, Rock Island, Sgt. York, South Cumberland	Cumberland Plateau
Central Appalachians	Cumberland Trail, Frozen Head, Indian Mt	Upper East TN
Ridge and Valley	Big Ridge, Booker T. Washington, Cove Lake, Davy Crockett Birthplace, Ft. Loudoun, Harrison Bay, House Mountain, Norris Dam, Panther Creek, Red Clay, Sycamore Shoals, Warriors Path	East TN
Blue Ridge Mountains	Hiwassee/Ocoee, Roan Mountain	East TN